

Farmers' Gazette,

AND CHERAW ADVERTISER.

VOLUME VI.

CHERAW, SOUTH-CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1841.

NUMBER 17.

By M. MAC LEAN.

TERMS:—Published weekly at three dollars a year; with an addition, when not paid within three months, of twenty per cent per annum. Two new subscribers may take the paper at five dollars in advance; and ten at twenty.

Four subscribers, not receiving their papers in town, may pay a year's subscription with ten dollars, in advance.

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AGRICULTURAL.

Having copied into our columns (two or three weeks since) the article to which the following is a reply, we give place to the reply also.

From the American Farmer.

ON CATTLE.

To the Editor of the American Farmer—Having observed in your last number of the "Farmer" an essay from Wm. Carmichael, Esq. on the subject of cattle, and believing that in the essay he advances and inculcates an erroneous opinion, well calculated to retard the progress of improvement in this valuable animal, I am induced to offer some reflections thereon.

Your correspondent is an old and practical farmer of some thirty years experience and practice, and the columns of the "Farmer" as well as many other papers, have afforded for many years ample evidence of his zeal in the cause of agriculture, his laudable fondness for the subject, as well as his general practical intelligence. His opinions, therefore, in general, are entitled to much weight, and when authoritative opinions emanate gravely from a source of this kind, and have a wide spread circulation, if they happen to be erroneous, they have upon the reflecting and inexperienced, a most dangerous influence. He has fallen, I take it, into a serious error when he gravely adjudges the preference "in favor of a New England over an Old England bull," and I should think it probable, notwithstanding the want of information upon the subject of his Connecticut visitor, that he could not go into any of the New England States to any noted breeder of good cattle and buy what is termed a country bull calf at any price.—They are not now in the hands of such men, and they are all breeding from improved cattle sprung from recent importations of Devons, Ayrshires or Hereford cattle. It has long been believed and maintained, that the old stock of New England (I will not mislead them the "native" stock) are the descendants of imported Devon cattle.—This has been inferred from their general resemblance in color and points, and although there is no degeneracy in size, they are not regarded by Mr. Hurlbert, Mr. Jacques and other scientific breeders as comparable to the English Devons at this time—because, no doubt, of the superiority with which they have been bred in the old country, and from this "cause only." Mr. Jacques by the bye is at the present time experimenting to see whether by scientific crossing he cannot make up a breed of his own, and so far he appears satisfied with his prospective success. Timothy Pickering was the only intelligent New Englander that I recollect to have seen maintain the superiority of the native cattle, as he called them, over the recent importations, and in a long controversy upon this subject he was fairly driven from his ground by a Pennsylvania farmer.

It is very true that in New England as well as elsewhere in the country we occasionally find an extraordinary milker of the old stock, whose pedigree cannot be traced to any recent importation, (although her appearance generally indicates the race she sprung from) but it would be very extraordinary if this were not the case, when the great disparity in numbers known to exist between the cows whose pedigrees are known, and those which are not known, is taken into account. But all the cattle of the country, be it remembered, are descended from cattle imported at some period or other from either England, France, or Holland. There is scarcely a substantial farmer on this Shore whose cattle are not already improved by crosses in some degree of the importations made here within the last fifty years. There have not been many importers on this shore—none that I recollect except Col. Lloyd, Gen. Cadwallader, the elder Wm. De Courcy, Mr. Dickinson, of Caroline, and occasionally a few milch cows, into the old seaport town of Chester. But the late Wm. Helmsley, and the late Gov. Wright bred carefully and judiciously from imported cattle, and had greatly the best herds in their dairy on the Shore. Col. Lloyd ruined his herd of cattle by breeding for many years from the Bakewells; (a race known to be fit for nothing but the butcher) and he never succeeded in after crosses in breeding this bad blood

out. Mr. Bordley's cattle which Mr. C. so much commends, it appears were obtained from Mr. Calvert, no doubt before he ruined his stock by the introduction of Bakewells into it. But Mr. Bordley's cattle, to my eye, bear evident marks of their Teeswater origin and resemble precisely the descendants which I have seen from the importation of Mr. Porter, of Delaware, as they do very much the Durhams of the present day, and in nothing so much as their color. Mr. Bordley was an able agriculturist, one of the most intelligent of the country in his day; but I should infer, conjectured, they had descended from the cattle which Lord Anson saw on the Island of Tinian, because no notice is taken in any of the various English works that I have seen, in which the origin of their valuable races of cattle is traced out, or the slightest mention made of Lord Anson's importation of cattle.—Their herd book runs back, if I recollect right, far beyond the date of Lord Anson's voyage round the world.

The white color, with red or dark ears, although a color not unfrequently found in the Durhams and some other races, is an objectionable one to some farmers, believing it to be tender in cold climates, and they desire to get rid of it. It is believed to repel heat whilst the darker colors absorb it, and according to my experience it is true, for at the end of summer my white cattle are generally in the best condition, whilst this is not the case at the end of the winter if the animal is left unsheltered. The old Bordley cattle and the old Porter cattle were undoubtedly fine cattle, and any farmer with good pasture might be very content with a good herd of them.—But they were imported cattle, and never were for the grazier or the butcher since I have known them, according to my humble opinion, to be compared to the recent importations of Durhams, Devons, Ayrshires or Herefords. Then what good reason can your intelligent correspondent offer to prove, that we had better buy and breed from cattle which were imported fifty or an hundred years ago and bred from since with no care, in preference of those of the same original race bred with the utmost care and science, I am at a loss to conjecture. There has been no scientific breeding of cattle on this shore such as you find all over England. Col. Lloyd was a man of the soundest practical sense, and one of the best farmers I ever knew; but he was a very careless or injudicious breeder.—He mixed all the different races of stock brought upon his estate together, and kept nothing separate. Merinos, he crossed on country sheep, upon these he crossed Bakewells, and on these again he crossed South Downs—ultimately his flock comprised in the same animal all this medley of blood. His ample and fine pastures gave him good stock, but ultimately from this cause, both his cattle and sheep fell into disrepute and no breeder sought stock, cattle or sheep from Wye. He had in fact at the time of his death no distinct breed of cattle or sheep on his whole estate. The first cross between two distinct races of animals will most probably give you valuable stock for the butcher, but when the breeder comes to breed further together these crossed animals, they seldom fail to "breed back" as it is termed to their worst ancestors, and sad disappointment is the inevitable consequence. I shall again hereafter refer to Col. Lloyd's short horn Durhams, and undertake to correct your correspondent in another particular about them.

We have, by recent importations, all the valuable varieties of stock which England is so justly famed all over the world, and the difference generally in the style of breeding by our countrymen and the English is, that the former are apt to mix up every variety together and expect by accident to get something better than the originals—whilst the latter breed strictly and closely from the same race, only offering crosses from different families or herds. The former sometimes crosses till he ruins his stock, has no distinct race, and then condemns it.—The latter by his manner of breeding prevents his stock from deteriorating, if he does not improve it. Which of these breeders should we buy from? You may ride for days and weeks together in England, and you will not see a mixed herd of cattle, or flock of sheep, or an individual of this description, and you will very rarely indeed, see a single indifferent animal—they are all good or fair.—But at the same time you will be forcibly struck with the pleasing fact, that among their great numbers, you will see nothing superior either in form or size to some of the carefully bred animals of the same races raised in this country, and treated as well as good stock should be.

The advantages to the farmer effected in England by scientific and improved breeding, are, to produce an animal of less offal, carrying more weight within the same outlines, early maturity and greater aptitude, from the quality of the bone, to fat. You see in all their publications the Englishman proudly boasting of, and setting forth the fact in round numbers, that the average weight of their cattle and sheep sold in Smithfield and other great markets is annually and steadily on the increase, and the American grazier will perhaps be astonished to learn that their prize stall fed bullocks hardly ever see the end of their fourth year; whilst three fourths

of the Durhams, Devons and Herefords sold in their markets, do not reach the end of their third year. Behold, Mr. Editor, the great advantages to the breeder and grazier afforded by these quick returns and this great economy of feed. Similar results, as Mr. Turner and other intelligent butchers know, are beginning to appear in our own markets, whenever the improved stock comes to the shambles.

Your correspondent, Mr. C. has wisely indicated to the farmers of the Eastern Shore, that in consequence of the quantity of breadstuffs thrown into Baltimore by works of internal improvement, that we must go at something else than raising breadstuffs for market; no proposition is more sound and true than this, and I have long ago foreseen and maintained it, but in my next number I will undertake to show that this is nearly physically impossible in the present temper of the people of the Shore, and that we cannot succeed, until we first provide means of transporting our marketing to market, before the marketing itself is provided. Upon the subject of which end we are to begin at to reach success in this desirable object in introducing new objects of culture and new sources of profit to Eastern Shore farmers, we shall perhaps be more widely apart than we are on the subject of breeding stock. But if unfortunately we should not succeed to convince each other in our collision of opinion and argument, we may possibly sufficiently raise the curtain over our benighted Shore, to let in the light from some other quarter. E.

Poplar Grove, Feb. 5, 1841.

NEW KIND OF GRAIN.

A foreign paper, the Derry Standard, directs public attention to a new variety of grain, of which a trial has been made the last season, in England, out of which a sufficient quantity has not been raised to enable the true test of its future usefulness to be applied to it.

"Last year a mechanic in Bedale, Yorkshire, received a letter from a relative in Peru South America. In it were a few grains of what he called Peruvian barley, which he stated, produced two crops from one sowing, in that country, that is, when one crop was reaped, shoots were proceeding from the stems, which the same season brought to maturity.—From curiosity, more than any other motive at that time, these grains were planted in a garden, and those that vegetated produced a number of stems each, which came to maturity. This year not having any place where the grain could be safely sown and taken care of, he was kindly permitted to occupy a bed twenty-one yards long and seven feet wide, in the garden of a lady of fortune in Bedale.—Some more of the grain was sown in a little garden of his own, and the produce of one different head was cultivated in the garden of the Rev. John Manson.—The corn grew luxuriant, and produced from some of the grains upwards of thirty stems, from its great height and luxuriance it suffered from the severe weather in July, but it was cut the tenth of August. There were some green stems, growing from the root at the time, but not sufficient to justify the expectation of another crop in this climate. The grain when standing has the appearance of barley but much whiter, with a long beard or awn. On being pulled and rubbed in the hand the awn comes off with the husk, and leaves the grain bare like wheat, to which it bears a stronger resemblance than barley and by some is considered a species of wheat. To show the enterprising and speculative spirit of the Englishman we state that £100 was offered for the produce of one small plot of ground above mentioned, on which the crop, notwithstanding the disadvantages of the season, was very great but could not be more than six stone.—We understand the sum was refused, the owner expecting to get more by selling it in small quantities."

GAPES IN CHICKENS, &c.

We have four communications on the management of chickens, relating principally to the cause, prevention and cure of gapes. As we have not room for them all, we extract from each of them the most essential parts. "A Poullterer" inquires the cause, and asks for preventive and cure. He describes the disease as follows:—

"So far as my observation, has extended, and from the information of others, I gather the following facts relative to the disease. Upon dissection there are found in the windpipe, several small red worms, varying in size and length—some half an inch and more in length. The heart, also, is much enlarged, quite soft and suffused with blood. It is supposed that these worms continue to increase in size, until the windpipe becomes completely filled up, and the chicken suffocates. The disease first shows itself when the chicken is between three and four weeks old, and not generally after, by causing a sneezing or snuffling through the nostrils, and a frequent scratching of itself at the roots of the bill. In two or three days it commences to droop and grow stupid, and at every breath raises its head and gapes,

apparently for the want of breath. It thus continues for a week or ten days, when it dies, perfectly emaciated. The appetite continues good, and it will eat greedily so long as it lives. The disease is attended with much fever, so much so, that the end of the tongue becomes white, and so dry that it curls up."

From the communication of "N. S." of New-Windsor:—

"Can you give your readers any information as to the best methods for rearing chickens? I have taken a great deal of pains, but have invariably been but poorly paid for my trouble. In the first place, my hen-house, in the warm season of the year, is so infested with hen lice, as they are called here, that it is almost impossible to make the hens stay on their nests until the eggs are hatched. The moment a person enters the door, they appear to come from every direction right down upon him; and if by any chance, there happens a few eggs to get hatched out, the chickens are soon taken with a disease called the gapes, and very few if any survive. The best thing I have ever yet found for this disease, is ground black pepper and butter, mixed well together, put down their throats; this, if applied soon enough, I think is a pretty certain cure. Any information upon either of those evils would be thankfully received also the best method for building hen-houses, so that they may be the easiest cleanest, accommodate the most hen, and keep them the warmest in winter."

Mr. E. Westfall, of Rhinebeck, gives the following remedy:—

"Remove the worms out of the windpipe and they will get well. This can be done with safety and facility after a little practice, in the following manner. Let some one take the chicken, holding its in one hand and placing the other over its back, so as to hold it firm; then let the operator take a small hen's feather or a large pigeon's feather, and strip off the feather from the stem excepting about an inch or inch and a half from the tip end, according to the size of the chicken. Wet it a little, and strip that part back so that what remains on the stem, will stand back like the barbs on an arrow, excepting the extreme point, which roll a little so as to make a point; then let the operator take the head of the chicken in his left hand, placing his thumb and forefinger on each side of the bill, in such a manner as to hold the mouth open, the neck gently but firmly drawn out in a straight line; then observe the opening back in the tongue, place the feather as near to it as possible, and when the chicken breathes, the windpipe will be open, enter the point quick, and fear not after the point is entered; push down gently from two to three inches, (don't be in too much of a hurry); then draw out, and turn the feather as it is drawn, and the worms will adhere to the feather, and others will be loosened, and the chicken will sneeze them up frequently, so that they will fly out of their mouths. It is not advisable to enter the feather more than twice at one time; let the chicken go, and if it gapes the day after, you have not got them all; try again. This is a sure cure if attended to; generally you need not perform the operation more than once, but sometimes oftener. My chickens, over 100 in number, never had it worse; the greater part have had it, and I have lost but one, and that was doubtless neglected too long; and I never saw a lot of chickens thrive better in my life. I have taken out as many as eleven worms at one haul. One of my goslings, not long since, appeared to have the gapes. It was something new to me, I never had heard of goslings being subject to it; I thought the gosling would soon die; it occurred to my mind that it was not an impossibility, I tried the remedy, and the gosling is now well and thriving."

"J. R. S." of Fultonville, says:

"Hens having chickens are usually kept confined while the chickens are small, and too often so that they cannot get to the ground. When thus confined, it should always be on the ground, and in a good sized moveable coop, which should be moved so as to occupy a new position on the ground, as often as once in ten days. Such a course will have a tendency to prevent the young brood from becoming lousy; for it is well known chickens cannot thrive if covered with vermin. I not only feed and water such broods several times in a day, but I cut grass and clover into short pieces and place it in the coop, and have the satisfaction of seeing it greedily devoured. In addition to this course of treatment, I almost daily, dig earth worms for them. I hear my neighbors often complain that their chickens are lousy, or have 'the gapes,' either of which will destroy them. I seldom lose chickens from either, and attribute my success to the course of treatment as above recommended. Thousands upon thousands of chickens would probably be saved annually, by a little attention to the course I pursue. Lice may be destroyed by placing lard beneath the wings and on the back of the chicken. A sure remedy for the gapes I have not yet discovered;

but have heard a simple one given, which I have had no opportunity to test. It was to extract a few of the end feathers from the wings, the barrel of which it is said will be found to be black. Fowls, while laying, should be well fed, and the size of the eggs will generally determine their keeping; as the eggs are 'ages' when the fowls are best fed."

THE BANKS.

"Now by St. Paul the work goes bravely on."

The State Bank and the Bank of Charleston have followed the honorable example of the Bank of South Carolina, and rejected the late Anti-Suspension law. The former institution failed to form a quorum, and adopted, without a dissenting voice, a motion to adjourn sine die, with the understanding that it was to be considered a rejection of the Act.

The meeting of the Bank of Charleston was one of high interest—the attendance was numerous, and more than a majority of shares were represented. On motion, the Hon. Jacob Bond 'On was called to the Chair, and Abraham Moise, Jr., Esq., appointed Secretary. An able legal opinion, from J. L. Petigru, Esq., a Solicitor of the Bank, was read, showing that the Bank was not within the purview of the Act, as the first suspension, to which alone it had been a party, had been sanctioned by various subsequent acts and resolutions of the legislature, and the forfeiture, if incurred, had been thereby released, and especially by the act, of 1839, passed since that suspension, and after the resumption, amending the charter of the Bank and, of course, recognizing its legal existence. H. W. Conner, Esq., read an able report from the Board of Directors, explaining, with great force, the grounds of objection to the law. Doddridge Crocker, Esq., offered a series of resolutions, adopting the report, and rejecting the act. C. G. MEMMINGER, Esq., rose and opposed the resolutions, in a forcible speech of great length, and concluded with offering a substitute, in substance accepting the act. J. L. Petigru, Esq., replied to Col. M., in an animated address, full of pith and point, and in especial vindication of the late Bank suspensions, on grounds of morals and public expediency. Albert Rhett, Esq., followed on the opposite side, but with all his rare gifts of elocution, failed, in our judgment, to make the worse appear the better reason. The Hon. Ker Boyce, President of the Bank replied to Mr. Rhett, explaining his own course in the Legislature, and opposing the acceptance of the Act. Gov. McDuffie, although we are sorry to say in very feeble health, next took the floor, and strongly advocated the rejection of the law, on the ground that the Bank of Charleston was not bound to accept the act, and there was no obligation on it to carry magnanimity so far as voluntarily to subject itself to penalties, intended to punish an offence from which its skirts were clear. He impressed, with great force, the injustice of the act in levelling penalties against the Banks of the State, which so far from abusing, had never even used, to any thing like its legal extent, the unwise power over the circulation, entrusted to them by their charters. They were all empowered to issue paper to three times the amount, not of their specie, but of their capitals—and to exercise that power would unquestionably be a greater fraud than the suspension of specie payments, for which they were now arraigned as criminals. He also discarded on the utter folly of imposing penalties and restraints on suspensions, at a period, when the recharter of a U. S. Bank, with a capital of \$50,000,000, on a specie basis, was soon likely to force every State Bank in the Union, on the principle of self-preservation, into a state of suspension. The Hon. F. H. Elmore, President of the Bank of the State expressed his views in favor of the law, and in reply to Mr. McDuffie, but his remarks struck us, as in fact, although doubtless not intentionally so, rather apologetic, than defensive of the act; as he allowed that monthly statements ought to be substituted by quarterly or even semi-annual ones, and urged the right of the State to release the penalties for suspension, under the act, should the event, alluded to by Mr. McDuffie, happen and be attended with the anticipated effect. After a few words chiefly explanatory, between Messrs. Rhett and McDuffie, Col. Memminger's substitute was rejected, and Mr. Crocker's original resolutions were adopted by a very large and most decisive majority.

The Commercial Bank of Columbia has also nullified this unconstitutional act, and earned, we understand, the honor of striking the first blow. It only remains now for the judiciary to give it an everlasting quietus.—Charleston Courier.

From the same paper.

MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS

OF THE BANK OF CHARLESTON, SO. CA.

In pursuance of a public call, the Stockholders of the Bank of Charleston, So.

Ca., convened at their Hall, on Saturday, the 27th February, to take into consideration the recent act of the Legislature in reference to the suspensions of specie payments, by the Banks of this State.

A large majority of the shares were represented on the occasion—and a more numerous meeting of the Stockholders, has not been held since the establishment of the institution.

The Hon. Jacob Bond 'On was called to the Chair, and A. Moise, Junior, appointed Secretary.

The Hon. Ker Boyce, President of the Bank, stated that he had in his possession, a letter from James L. Petigru, Esq., Solicitor of the Bank, which was read for the information of the Stockholders, as follows.

CHARLESTON, FEB. 25, 1841.

DEAR SIR—In the opinion which I had the honor of submitting to you lately, on the recent act respecting suspensions, no notice was taken of what has happened since the suspension. If no forfeiture has been in fact incurred, it is immaterial whether the Legislature have or have not, released the Banks from it. But if am wrong, and it should be adjudged that the suspension of 1837, was a cause of forfeiture, then it would become very material to ascertain, whether the Legislature have waived that forfeiture or not.

What the Legislature did, is contained in the journals and acts of the session of 1837.

The matter was brought to the view of the Legislature by Governor Butler. His message is an elaborate defence of the necessity of the suspension, and of the duty of the Legislature to promote resumption, by encouraging the Banks. The Comptroller General had to consider the subject, in relation to the Bank of the State. He commends the suspension in his report, as a measure of public safety. But the Bank of the State had not only suspended, but issued small bills against an express prohibition. This was a clear case of a breach of the charter; but the Comptroller treats it as an act, forced upon the Directors, by the necessities of the people, and submit their claims to the indulgence of the Legislature. The Legislature adopting the suggestion of the Comptroller, passed an act (see page 41 of annual acts, &c.) authorizing the Banks to issue bills of fifty cents, and twenty-five cents, and repealing the prohibitory laws.

The Governor's Message on the subject of currency was referred to a Special Committee (15). That Committee made a report, containing views on the subject of the currency, and the causes of the late embarrassments, at variance with the Governor's. But on the subject of the suspension an amendment was offered by a member of the Committee in these terms:—"That it is not intended hereby to reflect on a discredit on the Banks, generally of the United States, nor least of all, upon our own, of whose sound condition, (as compared with other parts of our Banking system) the Legislature is fully satisfied." (14.) This resolution was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. Their report "that they had examined the exposition of the condition of the Banks accompanying the message, and feel satisfied that they are entitled to public confidence," was adopted by both branches. (11.) The tax act passed on the 20th December, while every Bank in the State was under suspension, directs the taxes to be paid in specie, or the bills of the Banks of this State.

If there had been in the charter of the Bank of Charleston, an express condition, that upon suspending specie payments, the charter should be forfeited these resolutions and acts of the Legislature would release the penalty. A forfeiture never can be returned to after it has been once waived, any act which recognizes the relation after a forfeiture has occurred, is a waiver of the forfeiture. Thus the acceptance of rent from a tenant after a breach of an express condition, is a release of the forfeiture; although the forfeiture is expressly provided for, as the consequence of the breach. It is the same in all sorts of grants, to which conditions either express or implied are annexed.

It would be impossible to enforce the forfeiture supposing that it had been incurred after the session of December, 1837. But in 1839, the Legislature authorized the Bank of Charleston to postpone at the discretion of the President and Directors the payment of its additional capital. This was such a distinct recognition of the Bank, as a corporation legally existing, that a prosecution for an antecedent forfeiture, will not bear argument.

I am, dear sir, yours truly,

J. L. PETIGRU.

KER BOYCE, Esqr.

Pres't. Bank of Charleston, S. C.

DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

Monday February 22, 1841.

MR. WEBSTER'S RESIGNATION.

The debate on Mr. Crittenden's bill having closed; the following letter from the Hon. Daniel Webster was read:—"Hon. R. M. Johnson, Vice President U. S."

"Sir: It is the object of this letter to make known to the Senate the resignation